## Danner, Ward

From: Jennifer deNicola <jd18@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 6:33 PM

To: Wilson, Patrick

Cc:Santos, Carmen; Armann, SteveSubject:Re: cleaning of our schools

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Completed

Categories: Green Category

Dear Patrick,

I am really glad both you and Steve are coming to Malibu Thursday. I look forward to finally meeting you in person! Will you also be meeting with the teachers at 3:30? This would be extremely helpful for them.

The cleanliness of our school is a huge issue! (see attached photos) One that has contributed to the health issues that students and teachers have complained about. Since EPA's website specifically suggests to reduce exposure to "clean frequently to reduce dust and residue inside buildings," it is safe to conclude that this should be done now. Cleaning the schools is a simple thing to do, let alone the right thing to do.

The school has a 2 week Winter Break and then not another break until April 5th. The kids and teachers have been exposed to extensive dust and toxins for too long. We all know that being exposed to a dirty environment poses unnecessary heath issues.

The parents are demanding that the school be professionally cleaned over winter break and not when the kids are present. The kids and teachers deserve to work in a clean environment today, not sometime in the future. We need our school cleaned now and we need your help to do it.

If there are other mitigating circumstances that play a part in making this decision that I am not aware of, then I welcome the explanation as to why doing this now, would not be in the best interest of our kids and our teachers.

This entire process going forward with the EPA, DTSC and DPH will have more integrity if all stakeholders are included in the discussion. Parents, teachers and the district each have different knowledge and perspective that will aide in your discovery and decision making. Please make sure this effort is not only district led.

I believe the longer this goes on, the more damage that is done; for our health and for the spirit of our community.

As always, I thank you and your colleges for your time and your compassion in assisting us. Jennifer deNicola







On Dec 10, 2013, at 3:39 PM, Wilson, Patrick wrote:

Hi Jennifer – Good Afternoon!

Thanks for your voice & e-messages – I apologize for missing your direct call.

Yes, I will be traveling down to Malibu on Thurs morning to participate in the study session & board of education meeting with Steve Armann. We plan on arriving in LA with sufficient time to visit with the superintendent & tour the school before the formal meetings begin.

Regarding your strategy for industrial cleaning of the school during the break, Steve would like to discuss this further with the school administration & the task force when we visit on Thurs/Fri. Steve has had a number of detailed conversations with members of the school administration – so he feels it would be most effective to tackle this issue & its logistics during our time with school officials & task force members.

I hope this is a reasonable approach from your perspective.

We very much appreciate all of your help & direction Jennifer – and we both hope to see you on Thurs.

Best Regards...

..patrick

<image003.png>

Patrick Wilson, Ph.D., M.P.H. |Senior Regional Toxicologist | Regional Incident Coordination Team

415.972.3354 | wilson.patrick@epa.gov

US EPA Region IX | 75 Hawthorne St. (WST-5) San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

http://www.epa.gov/region9/

From: Jennifer deNicola [mailto:jd18@me.com] Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2013 2:13 PM

**To:** Wilson, Patrick; Santos, Carmen **Subject:** cleaning of our schools

## Patrick and Carmen:

The parents of Malibu have requested the district to use the 2 week Holiday Break as a time to industrial clean Malibu High School and Middle School. The schools are seriously dirty, hence the results of the wipe samples. As we discussed on our Friday phone call, the caulk is the primary source, but it is the secondary source of contaminated dust that creates an exposure issue. We should be removing that ASAP. One of the first steps on the EPA site to reduce exposure is to "clean frequently to reduce dust and residue inside buildings." It has been countless years since the buildings have been cleaned (if ever). I have included some photos below.

Would you agree that cleaning the entire inside of the schools (walls, floors, ceiling, stuff inside the classrooms) would be most effective when students are not on campus as well as doing it sooner rather than later? The next break we have is April 5th (which would be a good time to do a full soil testing:))

Thank you for your time. Jennifer deNicola

## First Step: Take Steps to Minimize Exposure

Although this is a serious issue, the potential presence of PCBs in schools and buildings should not be a cause for alarm. If your school or building was built or renovated between 1950 and 1979, there are several steps schools can take to reduce potential exposure until it can be determined with certainty if PCBs are present in caulk used in the building and any contaminated caulk can be removed. One of the most important steps is to minimize the potential for PCBs to be present in the indoor air. Indoor air levels of PCBs within a school can be reduced by ensuring that the ventilation system is operating as designed, and to repair or improve the system if it is not.

## Other steps include:

- Clean frequently to reduce dust and residue inside buildings.
- Use a wet or damp cloth or mop to clean surfaces.
- Use vacuums with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters.
- Do not sweep with dry brooms; minimize the use of dusters.
- Wash children's hands with soap and water often, particularly before eating.
- Wash children's toys often.
- Wash hands with soap and water after cleaning, and before eating or drinking.